

03500.012892.1



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: T. Nguyen
KEISUKE ARAKI, ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2872
Appln. No.: 10/763,201)	
	:	Allowed: August 2, 2004
Filed: January 26, 2004)	
	:	Confirmation No. 6433
For: OPTICAL ELEMENT AND)	
OPTICAL APPARATUS	:	September 9, 2004
)	

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of a Notice of Allowance dated August 2, 2004, in the above-referenced application. The Issue Fee is due on or before November 2, 2004, and is being paid concurrently herewith.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Reasons for Allowance set forth in the Notice of Allowability on the grounds that:

(1) whereas in several instances the Reasons refer to “optical element”, the claims instead recite --optical component--;

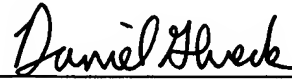
(2) whereas the Reasons refer “the diameter of an exit pupil of the first optical element at the intermediate image”, Claims 69 and 75 instead recite --a diameter of an exit pupil by said first optical component in correspondence to the azimuth ξ , at the time an aperture of said aperture stop is maximized-- and Claims 72 and 76 instead recite --a diameter of an exit pupil by said first optical component in correspondence to the azimuth ξ , at the time an aperture of said aperture stop is minimized--;

(3) whereas the Reasons refer to “an aperture stop with its maximum opening”, the claims instead recite --an aperture stop--, and further, as discussed above, make reference to the time an aperture of said aperture stop is maximized or minimized; and

(4) whereas the Reasons refer to “a first optical element having a refractive surface of rotationally asymmetric shape, a reflective surface and a second optical element having a refractive surface of rotationally asymmetric shape and a reflective surface”, Claims 75 and 76 instead recite --at least one of said first optical component and said second optical component comprises an off-axial curved surface--.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Glueck", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Daniel S. Glueck
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DSG

DC_MAIN 177521v1